

**The Shlenker School,
Houston, TX
theshlenkerschool.org**

The Shlenker School enjoyed an exceptional year this year. Despite the difficult economic times, our enrollment held steady throughout the year, while registration for 2010-2011 has increased. Some highlights of 2009-2010 include:

1. The Hebrew department received an AVI CHAI technology grant designed to facilitate authentic assessment of oral Hebrew language. The grant provided funds for three new portable tablet computers for classroom teachers, as well as MP3 players and recorders for student and teacher use. The teachers designed lessons and assessment tools using this new classroom equipment that enabled them to capture student achievement easily and authentically.
2. Through generous gifts of our PTO, local foundations, and funds remaining from our AVI CHAI grant, we were able to install interactive Promethean boards and BrightLinks interactive projectors in ten classrooms. The rest of the classrooms (both general and Hebrew classrooms) will be similarly equipped during the summer of 2010. Teachers were provided with intense and on-going training to facilitate the integration of the new technology into the classroom instruction.
3. Facilitated by URJ congregational consultants and **Dr. Jane West Walsh**, The Shlenker School inaugurated a new parent education series in January. Initially planned as a Jewish book club, the parents in the group asked to study parashat hashavua after completing the book. Thus, Torah Together!, a weekly parent study group, was born. Although parents requested the class continue throughout the summer, the group will resume in September and be on-going during the coming academic year.

**Temple Emanuel Academy Day School,
Beverly Hills, CA
teads.org**

Temple Emanuel Academy Day School (TEADS) had a busy, creative and meaningful year. A central focus has been strengthening connections to Israel by participating in programs that celebrate the Jewish state. An exciting highlight was the students' performance at the dedication of Temple Emanuel's new address "Herzl Way," in honor of the great Zionist visionary. TEADS students reached out to the community through a partnership with a local public school. The school celebrated writing at Student Author's Night, and the student council

led a campaign to benefit the relief effort in Haiti. The entire staff worked together to enhance the school's curricular goals by creating new authentic assessments.

**Temple Beth Am Day School,
Pinecrest, FL
tbam.org**

This spring we received our AISF/SACS Final Committee Evaluation Report. TBADS received full re-accreditation for five years. Some of the positive areas noted in the report included: Many of the teachers are also school parents; Shared campus facilities with members of the community ranging from Toddler Time babies through the local bridge group; Students and teachers appeared happy and busily engaged everywhere; The upgraded facility; Classrooms are well decorated and welcoming; An excellent fire drill; Opportunities for hands-on and active learning, especially in Early Childhood and Kindergarten; Language arts curriculum — the progression from a basal reader program to use of novels; Extensive staff development programs including Differentiated Instruction and Understanding by Design; Security; Faculty learning community; School spirit and Financial records. Further, our Project Day School Excellence grant has allowed us to continue to develop Differentiated Instruction in the classroom. "Everyday Math" was implemented in our first grade. Our revised Hebrew curriculum featured "Chalav U'Dvash" in the gan and "Pirke Tefillah" prayer study materials. "Passover Prep" days included family programming for all upper primary levels instead of Model Seders for all. We combined our participation in "International Walk/Bike to School Day" into the intermediate days of Sukkot where all had refreshments waiting. "Celebration (half) Days" were marked on both the last day of Passover and Shavuot. Students engaged in the Holy Days through informal learning and communal celebration. RenWeb became the main communication, progress report and lesson plan/"home learning" retrieval modality. Due to our proximity to Haiti, earthquake relief took many forms — emergency funds channeled through the Greater Miami Jewish Federation; specific medical materials and an impressive stuffed animal drive led by our kindergarten.

